

Date Mailed
November 2, 2001

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Joint Application of Wisconsin Electric Power Company and
Madison Gas and Electric Company, as Gas Public Utilities,
for the Sale of Natural Gas Utility Assets and Transfer of
Customers in the City of Prairie du Chien and Surrounding
Areas in Crawford County, Wisconsin, and the Related Joint
Request of Madison Gas and Electric Company and
Wisconsin Gas Company, as Gas Public Utilities, for
Approval of a Territorial Agreement for the Towns of Burke,
Windsor, Bristol, and Sun Prairie, Dane County, Wisconsin

05-BS-112

NOTICE OF HEARING

Direct Testimony Due:	November 6, 2001 – Noon
Rebuttal Testimony Due:	November 15, 2001 – Noon
Hearing Date:	November 19, 2001 – 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
Hearing Location:	Huckleberry Restaurant, 1906 Marquette Road, Prairie du Chien, WI

On September 25, 2001, Wisconsin Electric Power Company (WEPCO), Madison Gas and Electric Company (MGE), and Wisconsin Gas Company (WGC), as gas public utilities, filed a joint application for authority under Wis. Stat. §§ 196.80 and 196.81, to sell natural gas distribution facilities in Crawford County and to transfer the associated customers from WEPCO to MGE and to approve an amended territorial agreement between WGC and MGE for portions of Dane County, Wisconsin.

WEPCO proposes to sell to MGE its natural gas distribution system in Crawford County. The distribution system being sold serves customers in the city of Prairie du Chien, the villages of Eastman and Wauzeka, and the towns of Prairie du Chien, Bridgeport, Eastman, and Wauzeka. The sale of these facilities will result in the abandonment of service by WEPCO and the transfer from WEPCO to MGE of approximately 3,011 residential, 451 commercial and 18 industrial customers. MGE will become the natural gas service provider for these customers. The proposed purchase price of the facilities is \$3,800,000.

The application also requests that the Commission approve an amended territorial agreement dated October 18, 2001, between WGC and MGE that assigns areas to be served by each utility in the towns of Bristol, Burke, Sun Prairie, and Windsor, in Dane County.

The utility is responsible for giving notice to its customers of the filing of its application with the Commission and, pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 2.73, for producing proof of notice at the hearing.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that a hearing will be held on November 19, 2001, at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. at the Huckleberry Restaurant, 1906 Marquette Road, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. This building is accessible to people in wheelchairs. Parking for people with disabilities is available. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations should contact the docket coordinator listed below.

WEPCO, MGE and WGC are parties in this proceeding. Any other person desiring to become a party shall file a request pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(2m) and Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 2.32(3) no later than 10 days from the date of this notice. The request shall be addressed to Administrative Law Judge David C. Whitcomb, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7854.

The hearing will be for the purpose of gathering testimony and comments on the following issues:

1. Should the Commission approve the abandonment of service by WEPCO in the city of Prairie du Chien and surrounding areas in Crawford County, Wisconsin?
2. Should the Commission approve the assumption of service by MGE in the city of Prairie du Chien and surrounding areas in Crawford County, Wisconsin?
3. Should the Commission approve the sale of assets and transfer of service territory from WEPCO to MGE in the city of Prairie du Chien and surrounding areas in Crawford County, Wisconsin?
4. Should the Commission approve the proposed territorial agreement between MGE and WGC in the towns of Burke, Windsor, Bristol, and Sun Prairie, Dane County, Wisconsin?
5. What conditions, if any, should the Commission place on the applicants in relation to their requests in this docket?

This is a Type III action under Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 4.10(3). No unusual circumstances have come to the attention of the Commission which suggest that significant environmental consequences are likely. Neither an environmental impact statement under Wis. Stat. § 1.11 nor an environmental assessment is required.

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The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of programs, services, or employment. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations to participate in this proceeding or who needs to obtain this document in a different format should contact the docket coordinator listed below.

Questions regarding this matter may be directed to docket coordinator Michael John Jaeger at (608) 267-2546.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, _____

For the Commission:

David C. Whitcomb,
Administrative Law Judge

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